



GP 3721

Docket No. JJM-381

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Applicants : Watt et al.

Serial No. : 09/164,793

Art Unit: 3721

Filed : October 1, 1998

Examiner:

For : BIOPOLYMER SPONGE TUBES, SURGICAL STAPLERS AND  
METHODS OF USE THEREOF

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the  
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed  
to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

April 2, 1999

(Date of Deposit)

Theodore J. Shatynski

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

*Theodore J. Shatynski*

(Signature)

April 2, 1999

(Date of Signature)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37  
C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified  
application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in  
this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this  
information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R.  
§1.56(b).

☒ In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information  
Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months  
of the filing date of the above-identified application, within  
three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the  
above identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before

the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, no additional fee is required.

☐ In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with ☐ the first or ☐ second After Final Submission, therefore:

☐ Certification in Accordance with §1.97(e) is set forth below; or

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$240.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, therefore:

☐ Certification in Accordance with §1.97(e) is set forth below; or

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$240.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 but before the payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Certification in Accordance with §1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$130.00 as set forth in §1.17(i)(1).

☒ Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

☐ Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT:

- ☐ In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.
- ☐ In accordance with §1.98(d), copies of the following references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are not enclosed herewith because they were previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in patent application(s) for which a claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 have been made in the instant application:
- ☐ Copies of references [list as appropriate] listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. , filed .

☐ If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.

☐ The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:


☒ There are no listed references which are not in the English language.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to  
Deposit Account No. 10-0750/JJM-381/TJS. This form is submitted  
in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

Theodore J. Shatynski  
Theodore J. Shatynski  
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DATED: April 2, 1999

Form PTO-1449 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> 	Docket No. JJM-381	Serial No. 09/164,793
	Applicant Watt et al.	
	Filing Date October 1, 1998	Group Art Unit 3721

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam'r Init.	Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	File Date
	3,157,524					
	4,320,201	3/16/82	Berg et al.			
	4,614,794	9/30/86	Easton et al.			
	5,065,929	11/19/91	Schulze et al.			
	5,219,111	6/15/93	Bilotti et al.			
	5,263,629	11/23/93	Trumbull et al.			
	5,405,073	4/11/95	Porter			
	5,660,857	8/26/97	Haynes et al.			
	5,673,842	10/7/97	Bittner et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam'r Init.	Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translate (select one) Yes No	
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

OTHER REFERENCES (include author, title, date, pertinent pages, etc.)


Examiner:	Date Considered
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	

Form PTO-1449 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>	Docket No.	Serial No.
	JJM-381	09/164,793
	Applicant Watt et al.	
	Filing Date	Group Art Unit
	October 1, 1998	3721

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam'r Init.	Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	File Date
	5,697,543	12/16/97	Burdorff			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam'r Init.	Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translate (select one) Yes No	
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

OTHER REFERENCES (include author, title, date, pertinent pages, etc.)


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